

REMARKS

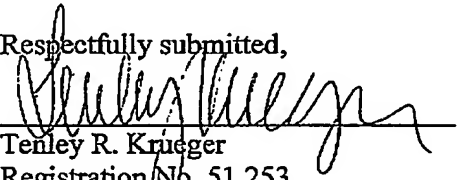
This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated April 14, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 14, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above noted amendments and the following remarks in response to the Office Action.

CLAIM REJECTIONS:

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 10 and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1 and 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,031,050 (*Nozawa*), U.S. Patent No. 5,206,302 (*Koshaka*), or U.S. Patent No. 4,233,418 (*Lingier*.) Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nozawa*, *Koshaka* or *Lingier* in view of U.S. Patent Appl. Ser. No. 2004/0018355 (*Shikano*), or U.S. Patent Appl. Ser. No. 2002/0042476 (*Kido*) or U.S. Patent Appl. Ser. No. 2004/0097650 (*Ogawa*.) Applicants respectfully submit that the references of record, either alone or in combination, do not teach, show or suggest the features of the pending claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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